
**DCSS P3 PROGRAM
NON-CAMP ENFORCEMENT WORKGROUP
AUGUST 21, 2000 MEETING
MEETING SUMMARY**

A. GENERAL

On Monday, August 21, 2000, the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) Policies, Procedures, and Practices (P3) Program Non-CAMP Enforcement Workgroup held its third official session in Sacramento. The following members attended:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	April, Ann	Large County Rep.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barnes, Rose	Medium County Rep./Analyst
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Boyson, Phyllis	Small County Rep.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hennessey, Jim	FTB Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hill, Lawrence	Large County Rep./Union rep.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Horstman, Herb	Judicial Council
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larson, Cheryl for Leslie Ledoux	FTB Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael, Sheila	Medium County Rep.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nitz, Michelle	CCSAS Rep.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pankey, Pam	FTB Rep.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rolon, Lucila	DCSS Analyst
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Saunders, Barbara	OCSE Rep.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Schambre, John	OCSE Rep.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silverman, Larry	County Leader
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Snider, Melanie	ACES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vogl, Richard	County Co-leader
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wynne, Tricia	Judicial Counsel Rep.

Ledoux.Leslie; Larson.Cheryl

Attending *ex officio* were:

- ☐ Kathie Lalonde, Facilitator (SRA International)
- ☒ Larry Wilson, Facilitator (SRA International)

This meeting summary highlights points covered, material discussed, decisions made, and follow-up tasks for forthcoming sessions. Comments and corrections should be addressed to Lucila Rolon at lucila.rolon@dss.ca.gov by 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 24.

B. REVIEW OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

Opening remarks by Larry Wilson:

- Ensure that minority views are captured
- Forums: the Steering Committee will decide on who will be attending and what location they will be attending. Will have information by next meeting.

Rich:

- Reviewed procedures for minutes (i.e. feedback time)
- Asked the group if they agreed to implement Barb's suggestions:
 1. Page 2, Quote 1: the group agreed that the quote was not necessary. It served as notes to us to begin discussion for the workgroup.
 2. Page 2, The Questions we ask ourselves: The group agreed to omit this section because it implies that we will answer all the questions in the report.
- Page 3 communication with the obligor, Larry Silverman will get back to us.
- Page 7 Action Item: Agreed that we already have representatives from DCSS policy for CAMP.
- Action item on debtor p. 7: Rich will change it to include the development of a process and specify the statewide system as the computer program.
- Page 8 Mandated Actions: Barb's suggestions- make the manner in which we present our product consistent throughout the report. Group agreed to be consistent throughout the report. Rich will incorporate Barbara's suggestions in the fourth draft. Herb will add codes to mandated actions where they are missing.

The group discussed the use of the word "effective" for some of the remedies. For the 4th draft, we will need to include effective if we feel is appropriate next to the remedies.

Page 13, suggestion to add an Administrative Subpoena but group decided to leave it out because it is a locate tool.

IRS treatment- Current support and arrears

- For IRS intercept there is no difference. IRS intercept is for current first and then for arrears. The distribution is the only difference.

Criteria for Drivers License releases - Current support, whatever you can get on interest and arrears.

Larry Wilson SRA- Provided matrix developed by Kathie Lalonde for report as a suggestion not a mandate. The suggestion pertains to a way to create an easily read visual tool and to help organize thinking.

C. TODAY'S TENTATIVE AGENDA

Other Jurisdiction's Ideas Change to Additional Ideas

Amnesty towards payments due to government agency. Amnesty bill (AB 1995) at the State level is going forward. All features described: welfare debt accrued, will pay current support until child reaches 18, forgive all or portion of welfare debt, welfare debt must be over \$500. Other ideas for amnesty: forgiveness of interest for arrears, forgiveness of criminal prosecution, amnesty should be judicial not administrative.

Recommendation by group: Amnesty for interest would be judicial (this may be cross over issue for staffing since this type of recommendation will impact L.A.'s workload)

Integrated database

Boot on the car - motivate debtors to go into the IV agency.

Action item: Melanie will get information for Rich on how this works on other states. The group recommends looking into it.

Mandatory notification to all prisoners of right to have child support reduced

Lien registry for entire state

Registry for assignments of causes of action: lien on lawsuit

Cal-Kids (pilot program): Sacramento only more expensive than CHIPS programs. This is an establishment issue as opposed to enforcement.

Posters for ten most wanted obligors:

- The state already does a statewide poster (FSD Letter). The group is not sure of its effectiveness.
- The group agreed that county discretion should be continued for deciding who would be on such a list. However, the group agreed that there should be uniform criteria as guidelines.
- The group encouraged the use of ongoing public announcements on enforcement remedies.

Best Practice and Recommendations (P. 18)

Four categories of clients have been identified for various levels and types of enforcement. Each category was discussed along with the possible appropriate enforcement actions.

1. **Willing and unable:** Why is a person willing but unable? Is it physical, mental, job skills, etc.

If unable because they are out of work, then seek a job order. Also, provide job information and follow-up.

1. Consider release from DMV
2. Consider a review of the case
3. Submit proof that the obligor is taking steps to get on a steady program to pay

2. **Unwilling and unable:** Why is the person unable? If they are unable because of unemployment, then job seek. But if it is unwilling because of anger, then use of contempt may be appropriate. The group discussed the feasibility of recommending anger management classes for unwilling NCPs to increasing willingness to pay. The downfalls for this: NCPs may not be able to afford to pay if there is a charge and the class may not be available in all areas.

3. **Unwilling but able:** Do all the enforcement remedies - criminal, contempt. Establish guideline of a 10% payment of arrears with an exception for the set percentage before the drivers license is released. Require the NCP to pay a lump sum of 10% of arrearage balance and ongoing plan towards the arrears and current support for purposes of license and passport release.

Family support administrative office makes the determination release a license back. If family support office decides to make an exception, require that the reason for exception be in writing before they lower the 10% requirement.

Billing: Inaccurate billings may result for different reasons (i.e. when NCP made the payment in a different county, backlog interest calculation, etc.). Billing is a good enforcement tool.

- We recommend that counties make it a top priority to have accurate account information.
- Project: Recommend that there be a statewide project to do an arrearage project clean up, as this will affect the balances transferred to FTB and the statewide system.

Automation: "real time": There was some discussion about the value to real-time actions on a case and the workload and time saved. Too often caseworkers have to defer actions pending other information. This can slow down processing and can generate additional work.

p.11 Counties refer cases to FTB, not DCSS

p. 4 Centralized agency

Group decided to struggle more with exceptions and definitions of willing versus unwilling.

D. CROSS-OVER ITEM

Training issue: training caseworkers on different enforcement remedies in order to establish reliability.

E. ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	Date Recorded	Assignee	Date Due	Date Closed	Resolution
Rich will incorporate Barbara's suggestions in the fourth draft.	8/21	R.Vogl	9/7		

Action Item	Date Recorded	Assignee	Date Due	Date Closed	Resolution
Herb will add codes to mandated actions where they are missing.	8/21	H.Horstman	9/7		
Michele will start the report (Matrix format) and will label the 4 th column recommendation.	8/21	M.Nitz	9/21		
Melanie will get information (boot on the car) for Rich on how this works on other states	8/21	M.Snider	9/7		
Rose will get information on whether or not a warrant needs to be issued before posting the names.	8/21	R.Barnes	9/7		

J. ATTACHMENTS

None

L. NEXT MEETING

The committee members were advised to bring to the table for the next meeting, recommendations for best practices. The next meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2000 @ 10:00 am.